

SONIA MARANIEFF

By F. A. MITCHEL

The province of Vyatka, in Russia, borders on Siberia, and, though it is not quite so far north as St. Petersburg, it is rather a wild country. Near its center is a fine estate, in which on a piece of rising ground is a spacious residence. One day a lady rode out from this house on horseback. It was the spring of the year, and the winter had been cold. The lady had been told that wolves from the forests had been driven by hunger to seek food in the more civilized region, and she had pistols and holsters at the pommel of her saddle and a short rifle slung over her shoulder. Two servants, also armed, rode a short distance in her rear. She was going to visit a charitable institution in which she was interested.

During her return a sound of barking and shots was heard behind her, which drew rapidly nearer. Then a sleigh appeared, the driver lashing his horses to escape a pack of wolves. A man in the rear seat of the sleigh fired a shot at the brutes, then threw down his gun. It was evident that he had used his last cartridge. The equestrienne, supported by her servants, began firing at the wolves, which made off into the woods. Then the man in the sleigh thanked them for his life since, had it not been for their coming, in a few minutes more both he and his driver would have been devoured. Handing a card to the lady bearing the name Count Boris Geronosky, he said:

"If you ever come to St. Petersburg please advise me. I trust I shall be able to make your visit there enjoyable."

When the lady read the name on the card the expression on her face changed, but the count, whose nerves had been severely taxed, felt a swarming sensation and did not notice the impression his name had created.

"You need rest and refreshment," she replied to his request. "We are not half a dozen versts from my house. If you will partake of my hospitality I will accept your invitation later, for I shall soon visit the capital."

The count invited her into his sleigh and together they rode to her home, where she entertained him at dinner. After which he proceeded on his journey.

Within a few months Count Geronosky received a card on which was the name of Sonia Maranieff, the lady who had saved him from the wolves. He called upon her and begged her to tell him in what way he could best make her visit to the capital enjoyable.

"I live on the edge of a wilderness," she replied, "and have never seen anything of life in a great city. I would like to be present at one of the functions given at the palace."

"You shall be present," the count answered, "not only at one function, but as many as you please. I am one of the emperor's privy council and can command invitations for the asking."

Sonia Maranieff proved a great success in court society. Though she came from a wild country she was refined, and there was about her a greater freshness and ingenuousness than in the women of the city. Moreover, she was beautiful. Since she always gave her name as Sonia Maranieff it was supposed that she was unmarried. Many men strove to win her, but she seemed to prefer the attentions of him who had introduced her. Count Boris was devoted to her, but it was generally known that he was a married man and the Russian church does not admit of divorce.

There is a custom in Russia that a man of rank may marry a woman of wealth, giving her the right to bear his name and title for a consideration. Count Geronosky, on coming of age, found his paternal estate involved in debt. A career at court was open to him, but he must have means to achieve it. For 200,000 rubles he had given a wealthy woman the right to call herself Countess Geronosky. The marriage had been by proxy, and he had never seen his bride.

Those who noticed Count Boris' attention to Sonia Maranieff and to whom it was evident that he had fallen in love with her, knowing of his marriage, sympathized with him, for there was a certain dignity about this girl from a distant province, a chaste bearing, to make it evident that no man could possess her without making her his wife.

One evening when Sonia was dancing at the Winter palace a lackey stepped up to her with a telegram on a salver which had been forwarded from her abode. She opened it, and it was evident that it contained some distressing news. She straightway left the room, and so absorbed was she that she dropped her telegram. A lady picked it up and read the address, "Countess Geronosky."

The incident was soon common talk. Geronosky was congratulated on his marriage with Sonia Maranieff and asked why he had not announced it. The count was astonished and when told of how Sonia had dropped the telegram sought her immediately. He found her in an apartment, waiting for her carriage.

"I learn," he said, "that you have received a telegram bearing my name and title. Are you not Sonia Maranieff?"

"I was Sonia Maranieff till I became the Countess Geronosky."

The countess had received news of the death of her mother. Her husband went home with her, and after that they lived as man and wife.

A DOUBLE TRIANGULAR AFFAIR

By SARAH BAXTER

Ned Truesdale was born with a fair intellectual endowment, but there was one feature in his makeup that kept him constantly in hot water. As it is the nature of a bird to pour forth melody, so was it in Ned's nature to make love.

Finally he received a note from Miss Belle Stevens, a girl to whom he had told his story and who, not knowing of his idiosyncrasy, was preparing her trousseau. Having heard of his attentions to another, in her missive she stated that she did not propose to be so ignominiously treated. She scorned to sue for breach of promise, and the only method left her of punishing him was to act just as if she were a man and use a man's methods. She was in some respects a new woman and had lost her grandfather in a duel. These facts taken together, she had decided to give him his choice between keeping his promise and giving her satisfaction.

The most natural thing for Ned to do was to inform Miss Marlan Jones, the last girl to whom he had given his heart, of the alternative that had been offered him by her rival, with a request that she show him a way out of the difficulty. He sent Miss Jones the letter he had received from Miss Stevens, whereupon Miss Jones, who was a militant suffragette, returned it with an indorsement written in a bold hand on the face of it to the effect that if he did not keep faith with her (Miss Jones) she, too, would demand satisfaction under the code.

"The plot thickens," remarked Ned to himself, and, fearing to confide in any more girls lest he get more duels on his hands, he went straightway to his friend Tom Alsop and laid the two letters before him.

"There's but one thing for you to do, Ned; you must bluff 'em. Write a letter to each stating that you have been unaccustomed to deal with women as with men, but if she insists on being so treated you have no option but to grant her request."

"What, fight two women?"

"It won't come to that. When they find that you're not to be trifled with they'll haul in their horns, and you'll be free of both of them."

Ned was not so certain of thus gaining his freedom and told his friend so.

"If you wish to make the matter sure," said Tom, "you must follow the matter up by really and seriously engaging yourself to a girl whom you would like to marry. Is there such a girl?"

"I don't know. I feel more at home with Helen Swift than with any other girl. I reckon I'll settle on her."

"Well, then, send word, as I have told you, to Miss Stevens and Miss Jones and propose to Miss Swift. When you are really engaged these two will let you alone."

Ned wrote the notes as advised and the same evening proposed to Miss Swift. To the latter he declared he was in earnest, but confessed that he was in trouble with other girls. The young lady not only accepted him, but promised to stand by him no matter what the other girls might do.

The next day Tom Alsop received an earnest request from Ned to come to see him. On Tom's arrival Ned declared that he had received two formal challenges to mortal combat. What should he do? Would Tom take the matter up in his behalf? Tom said that he would, and went immediately to his own friend, Dick Thurston, laid the matter before him and it was agreed that Tom should act for Ned in the case of Miss Stevens, while Dick acted for him in the case of Miss Jones.

The next thing Ned heard from Tom was that a meeting had been arranged with both Miss Stevens and Miss Jones for the next morning at a secluded spot in the country, the two girls to draw lots as to which should have the first crack at her recreant lover. Ned was thrown into a state of consternation at this and endeavored to induce his second to find some way out of the matter without bloodshed. Tom claimed that it was not in his power to have the affair called off and advised him to consult with the lady he had last proposed to and who had promised to stand by him. Ned went at once to Miss Swift, who, after consideration, agreed to go with him on the field and make an effort to pacify the girls.

On the appointed morning Ned drove to the home of this last and only true ladylove, and the two arrived on the ground in due time, finding the two principals and Ned's two seconds there ready for the fray. She stepped forward and addressed them as follows:

"Ladies, it seems ridiculous to spill blood on account of one man when there are three here, or one for each girl. I am sure these gentlemen, Mr. Alsop and Mr. Thurston, cannot be insensible to the charms of Miss Stevens and Miss Jones."

Instinctively each girl named looked at the man she preferred. What could the men do? Nothing but surrender to the girl who had looked at him, and the affair, so far as Ned and his last and best girl was concerned, was ended then and there.

Mr. Truesdale was the most delighted man in the universe. He strutted about, glorying in his reprieve and crowing over his seconds.

The seconds subsequently each sent him a challenge, but the matter was amicably arranged.

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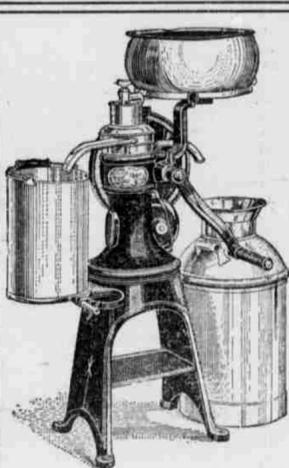
is hereby given to all consumers of Electricity, that beginning with the first of May, this Company will mail statements to consumers the first of each month.

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Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that I, Corda V. O'Brien, administratrix of the estate of Dennis J. O'Brien, deceased, will, by virtue of a license granted me out of the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, in an action pending therein, offer at public sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on May 27, 1914, at the hour of 2 o'clock, p. m., at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, the following described real estate situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: The East Half (E 1/2) of Section Thirty (30), Township Thirteen (13), North of Range Thirty (30), West of Sixth P. M. Terms cash in hand. Said sale to remain open for one hour.
Dated at North Platte, May 4, 1914.
CORDA V. O'BRIEN, Administratrix,
E. H. Evans, Attorney.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
Serial No. 04640
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Nebr.
March 31, 1914.
Notice is hereby given that Nellie Weeks, of Tryon, Nebr., who, on March 4, 1910, made Homestead Entry No. 04640, for a certain 20, township 17, N. range 30, west of the 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the register and receiver, at North Platte, Nebr., on the 15th day of May, 1914.
Claimant names as witnesses: David N. Callender, Harry E. Callender, Henry V. Rieckley, Bert Hudson, all of Tryon, Nebr.
m7-8
J. E. Evans, Register.

Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Milton White et al is plaintiff and G. E. Sewell et al are defendants, and to wit: I will on the 9th day of May, 1914, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said decree, interests and costs, the following described property, to-wit: South half of section twenty-two (22) Township twelve (12) Range thirty (30) west of the 6th P. M. Lincoln county, Nebraska.
Dated North Platte, Nebr., April 6th, 1914.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

ORDER OF HEARING.
The State of Nebraska, Lincoln county, ss.
In the County Court.
In the matter of the estate of John H. Gutherless deceased.
To the creditors, heirs, legatees and others interested in the estate of John H. Gutherless.
Take notice, that Mary Gutherless has filed in the county court, a report of her doings as administrator of said estate, and it is ordered that the same stand for hearing the 12th day of May, A. D. 1914 before the court at the hour of 9 o'clock, a. m., at which time any person interested may appear and accept to and contest the same.
Notice of this proceeding and the hearing thereof is ordered given to all persons interested in said matter by publishing a copy of this order in the North Platte Tribune, a semi-weekly news paper prior to said date of hearing.
Dated April 17th, 1914.
JOHN GTANT, County Judge.

LEGAL NOTICE
William E. Funkhauser and Lillian O. Funkhauser, defendants, will take notice that on the 10th day of April, 1914, Loren Sturgis, plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the District Court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, against said defendants and other defendants, the object and prayer of which are to foreclose a certain mortgage executed by the above named defendants to the plaintiff upon lots seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), ten (10), eleven (11) and twelve (12) in Block 23, of Gamble's Addition to the town of Hershey, Lincoln county, Nebraska, to secure the payment of a certain promissory note dated March 6th, 1911, for the sum of \$1,000.00 due and payable in ninety days from the date thereof. That there is now due upon said note and mortgage the sum of \$1,228.88. For which sum with interest from June 15, 1914, plaintiff prays for a decree that said defendants be required to pay the same, or that said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount due.
You are required to answer said petition on or before the 25th day of May, 1914.
Dated April 10th, 1914.
LOREN STURGIS, Plaintiff
s14-4 By Wilcox & Halligan, his Attorneys.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR LINCOLN COUNTY, NEBRASKA,
Mary Brobeck, plaintiff
vs.
George Meyer, a Minor, Elizabeth Meyer, a minor, Helena Meyer, a minor, Henry Meyer, a minor, and Carl Brobeck, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of an order of H. M. Grimes, Judge of the District Court in and for Lincoln county, Nebraska, made on the 11th day of April, 1914, for the sale of real estate hereinafter described, there will be held at the east front door of the court house in Lincoln county, Nebraska, on the 23rd day of May, 1914, at 2 o'clock, p. m., at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate, to-wit: The South Half and the South Half of the Northwest Quarter, and the South Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section Twenty-Four, in Township Sixteen, North of Range Thirty-One, West of the Sixth P. M., in Lincoln County, Nebraska. Said sale will remain open for one hour.
Dated this 27th day of April, 1914.
a23-3 MARY BROBECK, Guardian.

LEGAL NOTICE
To Mrs. Eloise Ireland, non-resident defendant: You are hereby notified that Emma J. Turpie as plaintiff filed her certain petition in the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, on April 23, 1914, against you, impleaded with Sarah Coe, Frank E. Coe and Mary Coe, his wife, first and last named unknown defendants, the object and prayer of which said petition are to quiet title in plaintiff against said defendants in and to the following described land situate in Lincoln county, Nebraska, to-wit: Lots Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven and Twelve, of Section Twelve, and all of Section Thirteen, Township Thirteen, north of Range Thirty, west of the Sixth P. M., and particularly against a certain mortgage made and executed to one Isaac Coe, your ancestor, to said described land and for such other relief as may be just and equitable.
You are required to make answer to said petition on or before the 30th day of June, 1914, or judgment will be taken against you as in said petition prayed.
EMMA J. TURPIE, Plaintiff,
By E. H. Evans, Her Attorney.

Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein L. C. Severns is plaintiff and Chris Rasmussen and E. P. Rasmussen, are defendants, and to be directed I will on the 29th day of May, 1914, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit: All of Section Nine (9), Township Ten (10), North of Range Twenty-eight (28), except one and one-half (1 1/2) acres in the northwest quarter (NW 1/4) of the southeast quarter, west of the 5th P. M. Lincoln county, Nebraska.
Dated North Platte, Nebr., April 25, 1914.
a25-6 A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.